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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method for screening mobile application part (MAP) messages, the method comprising:
in a transit network:
 - (a) receiving, from a first network, a first signaling message containing MAP protocol information and signaling connection control part (SCCP) information;
 - (b) extracting a first called party address ~~from~~ from the SCCP information;
 - (c) determining whether the first called party address matches first SCCP screening criteria for a first destination network that is a different network from the transit network;
 - (d) in response to determining that the first called party address matches the first SCCP screening criteria, extracting a MAP opcode from the MAP protocol information and determining whether the MAP opcode indicates a targeted message type for the first destination network; and
 - (e) in response to determining that the MAP opcode indicates a targeted message type, performing a screening action specified by a screening rule for the first destination network.
2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein determining whether the first called party address matches the first SCCP screening criteria includes

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determining whether the first called party address falls within a range of called party addresses corresponding to the first destination network.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein determining whether the first called party address matches first SCCP screening criteria includes determining whether the first called party address corresponds to a called party address that has been ported into the first destination network.
4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein determining whether the first called party address matches first SCCP screening criteria includes determining whether the first called party address corresponds to a called party address that has been ported out of the first destination network.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein determining whether the MAP opcode indicates a targeted message type includes determining whether the MAP opcode indicates an anytime interrogation message.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein determining whether the MAP opcode indicates a targeted message type includes determining whether the MAP opcode indicates a location update message.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein determining whether the MAP opcode indicates a targeted message type includes determining whether the MAP opcode indicates a short message service (SMS) message.
8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 comprising extracting a first calling party address from the first signaling message and determining whether the first

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calling party address matches the SCCP screening criteria for the first destination network.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein performing the screening action comprises performing the screening action in response to determining that the first calling and called party addresses both match the first SCCP screening criteria and that the MAP opcode indicates a targeted message type.
10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 comprising:
 - (a) receiving a second signaling message having a second called party address;
 - (b) determining whether the second called party address matches second SCCP screening criteria for a second destination network, the second SCCP screening criteria being different from the first SCCP screening criteria and the second destination network being a different network from the first destination network;
 - (c) in response to determining that the second called party address matches the second SCCP screening criteria, determining whether the second signaling message is a targeted MAP message type for the second destination network; and
 - (d) in response to determining that the second signaling message is a targeted MAP message type, performing a screening action specified by a screening rule for the second destination network.

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11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein performing the screening action includes dropping the message.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein performing the screening action includes generating billing information based on the message.
13. (Currently amended) A method for screening mobile application part (MAP) messages that are not sent route on global title, the method comprising:
in a transit network:
 - (a) receiving a signaling message;
 - (b) determining whether the signaling message contains MAP protocol information;
 - (c) in response to determining that the signaling message contains MAP protocol information, extracting an international mobile station identifier (IMSI) from the signaling message;
 - (d) determining whether the IMSI matches IMSI-based screening criteria for a destination network being a different network from the transit network;
 - (e) in response to determining that the message matches the IMSI-based screening criteria, determining whether the signaling message is a targeted MAP message type for the destination network; and
 - (f) in response to determining that the signaling message is a targeted MAP message type, performing a screening action specified by a screening rule for the destination network.

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14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13 wherein ~~receiving a signaling message includes receiving a signaling message in~~ the transit network is located between a first network and the destination network.
15. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein determining whether the IMSI matches IMSI-based screening criteria includes determining whether the IMSI falls within a range of IMSIs for the destination network.
16. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein determining whether the IMSI matches IMSI-based screening criteria includes determining whether the IMSI matches an IMSI corresponding to a subscriber who has been ported into the destination network.
17. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein determining whether the IMSI matches an IMSI corresponding to a subscriber who has been ported out of the destination network.
18. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein determining whether the signaling message is a targeted MAP message type includes decoding a MAP opcode.
19. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein determining whether the signaling message is a targeted MAP message type includes determining whether the signaling message is an anytime interrogation message.
20. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein determining whether the signaling message is a targeted MAP message type includes determining whether the signaling message is a location update message.

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21. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein determining whether the signaling message is a targeted MAP message type includes determining whether the signaling message is a short message service (SMS) message.
22. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein performing a screening action includes dropping the message.
23. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein performing a screening action includes extracting and storing information from the message.
24. (Currently amended) A signaling message routing node including transit network mobile application part (MAP) screening functionality, the signaling message routing node comprising:
 - (a) a first module for sending and receiving signaling messages in a transit network between first and second networks, wherein the first module is ~~adapted to identify~~ identifies signaling connection control part (SCCP) messages from the signaling messages; and
 - (b) a second module operatively associated with the first module for receiving the identified SCCP messages, for applying destination-network-based SCCP screening criteria to the ~~signaling~~ SCCP messages, wherein applying destination-based SCCP screening criteria includes selecting a MAP-based screening rule specific to a destination network identified by each signaling message, the destination network being a different network from the transit network, and, for each message matching the destination-network-based SCCP screening

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criteria, for applying the MAP-based screening criteria rule for each destination network.

25. (Original) The signaling message routing node of claim 24 wherein the first module comprises an SS7 signaling link interface module for sending and receiving SS7 messages over an SS7 network.
26. (Original) The signaling message routing node of claim 24 wherein the first module comprises an IP interface module for sending and receiving IP based signaling messages over an IP network.
27. (Currently amended) The signaling message routing node of claim 24 wherein the second module ~~is adapted to~~ extracts an SCCP called party address from each SCCP message and to determine whether the called party address falls within a range of called party addresses for the destination network.
28. (Currently amended) The signaling message routing node of claim 24 wherein the second module ~~is adapted to~~ extracts an SCCP called party address from each SCCP message and to determine whether the called party address corresponds to an individual called party address that has been ported into the destination network.
29. (Currently amended) The signaling message routing node of claim 24 wherein the second module ~~is adapted to~~ extracts an SCCP called party address from each SCCP message and to determine whether the called party address corresponds to an individual called party address that has been ported out of the destination network.

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30. (Currently amended) The signaling message routing node of claim 24 wherein the second module ~~is adapted to~~ determines whether each SCCP message that matches the destination-network-based screening criteria is a targeted MAP message type.
31. (Original) The signaling message routing node of claim 30 wherein the targeted MAP message type includes anytime interrogation.
32. (Original) The signaling message routing node of claim 30 wherein the targeted MAP message type includes location update.
33. (Original) The signaling message routing mode of claim 30 wherein the targeted MAP message type includes short message service.
34. (Currently amended) The signaling message routing node of claim 24 wherein the second module ~~is adapted to~~ drops MAP messages that match the MAP and SCCP screening criteria.
35. (Currently amended) The signaling message routing node of claim 24 wherein the second module ~~is adapted to~~ stores information relating to MAP messages that match the MAP and SCCP screening criteria.
36. (Currently amended) The signaling message routing node of claim 24 wherein the second module ~~is adapted to apply~~ applies different destination-network-based screening criteria for different destination networks.
37. (Currently amended) The signaling message routing node of claim 24 wherein the second module ~~is adapted to apply~~ applies SCCP calling party screening criteria to the identified SCCP messages.

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38. (Currently amended) The signaling message routing node of claim 24 wherein the second module ~~is adapted to apply~~ applies IMSI-based screening criteria to received MAP messages.
39. (Original) The signaling message routing node of claim 24 wherein the first and second modules are components of a signal transfer point (STP).
40. (Original) The signaling message routing node of claim 39 wherein the STP includes a distributed internal processing architecture in which signaling link interface functions are performed by a separate processor from MAP and SCCP screening functions.